

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KHARTO 03782 211225Z
ACTION AF-04

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SU, US
SUBJECT: NIMEIRI GRATIFIED RE STATUS USG/GOS RELATIONS

REF: KHARTOUM 3733

1. IN COURSE WIDE-RANGING TWO-HOUR CONVERSATION, MINSTATE FONAFFS FRANCIS DENG, WHO SAW NIMEIRI DAY OR TWO AGO ON DENG'S RETURN FROM OAU MEETING KINSHASA, TOLD ME DEC 21 HE HAD FOUND THE PRESIDENT RELAZED AND OPTIMISTIC RE USG/GOS RELATIONS. EVIDENTLY REFLECTING BRIEFING HE HAD RECEIVED FROM MINSTATE IDRIS (REFTEL), NIMEIRI HAD TOLD DENG THAT OUR PROJECTS ARE MOVING FORWARD IN GOOD ORDER, THAT HE IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT A FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN OUR BILATERAL TIES AND THAT HE IS PREPARED CONSIDER UNSPECIFIED MODIFICATIONS IN GOS AREA POLICIES TO REFLECT HIS GREATER CONFIDENCE IN USG INTENTIONS.
2. IN COURSE GENERAL REVIEW STATUS ON-GOING PROJECTS, I MENTIONED TO DENG, AS I HAVE TO OTHER SUDANESE, THAT GOS MIGHT WISH EXAMINE DOING MORE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND AT INTERNATIONAL FORA TO BRING ITS PUBLIC POLICIES MORE INTO LINE WITH ITS PRIVATE PROFESSIONS. DENG DID NOT DISAGREE BUT SAID THAT MANNER IN WHICH MODERATE AFRICANS, SUCH AS SUDAN, MIGHT BE APPROACHED, OR MIGHT PERCEIVE USG ACTIONS, USUALLY GOVERNED THEIR RESPONSES. FOR EXAMPLE, NIMEIRI WOULD READILY AGREE

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PAGE 02 KHARTO 03782 211225Z

IF ASKED TO "FIGHT COMMUNISM" IN AFRICA BUT WOULD VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE SUGGESTION THAT EFFORT BE MADE CIRCUMSCRIBE ACTIVITIES NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

3. COMMENT: CONVERSATION WAS MOST RELAXED AND PRIVATE I HAVE HAD WITH DENG SINCE MY RETURN. IT SEEMS CLEAR

HE ACCURATELY REFLECTING NIMEIRI'S VIEW THAT USG/GOS RELATIONS
ARE CURRENTLY SATISFACTORY FROM HIS STANDPOINT AND LIKELY CON-
TINUE EVOLVE IN FAVORABLE DIRECTION. BREWER

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